

## DC--Water Contamination

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WASHINGTON

Study finds EPA lax in collecting water data

WASHINGTON (AP) \_ A new study says the U-S Environmental Protection Agency hasn't done enough to force states to collect and report lead levels in drinking water.

The Government Accountability Office report also says the E-P-A doesn't have enough information on water quality in schools and child care facilities.

The study was launched two years ago after significant lead contamination was discovered in D-C drinking water.

A spokeswoman for the E-P-A's Office of Water tells The Washington Post says government regulations have been effective in keeping 96 percent of the nation's large water systems in compliance with lead rules. The agency says it has issued new guidance to protect schools from lead contamination.

Independent Senator James Jeffords of Vermont has pushed for stricter oversight after the problems with D-C water but hasn't gotten wide support in Congress.

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